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Annual Address of the President RHODE ISLAND MEDICAL SOCIETY

June 3, 1937

THE RHODE ISLAND MEDICAL SOCIETY LIBRARY, AFTER TWENTY-FIVE YEARS

JOHN E. DONLEY, M.D.

"The centennial celebration of the Rhode Island Medical Society occupied two days, June 12 and 13, 1912. On the evening of June 12, more than 400 persons, among whom were many prominent state and city officials, officers of Brown University, and leaders in many charitable organizations, were present at the informal reception with which the Society opened its new library on Francis Street. The reception was a brilliant affair, and gave the public its first opportunity to admire the handsome interior of the new structure. Simplicity is a distinguishing feature of the entire building, but it is of a kind that lacks extreme severity, and was relieved at the opening by banks of palms and bouquets on tables in all of the rooms." In these words, Dr. Stephen A. Welch, who was then secretary of the Society, described the opening of this building twenty-five years ago. There are present here today many who will recall the occasion, but there are also many others whose memories do not carry them back so far, and to all of these I would speak this afternoon. For the older Fellows amongst us I would revive pleasant recollections; in the minds of the younger I would arouse a lively appreciation of their precious heritage. For myself, as in private duty bound, I would avail myself of the opportunity afforded by my present office to pay my small tribute of gratitude to our library which, through all those years, has been to me, as Italy was to Linacre, *alma mater studiorum*.

This library of ours, housed in its dignified building, rich in books, pamphlets and journals, binds us to our brethren; not to those only who are with us no more, Rogers, Davenport, Noyes, Miller, Day, Hersey, Keefe, Leech, but also to those others who are still happily in our midst, Blumer, Peters, DeWolf, Mowry, to whose perennial efforts on

our behalf we owe a debt which we can pay only with heartfelt gratitude. We, who like to call ourselves younger men, enjoy with small cost to ourselves the fruits of their labors which have helped, in some fashion at least, to make us what we are. It is they who planned and built this library and made it possible for us to enjoy its inestimable advantages. Our forefathers throughout the centuries wrote books, and so many of them did the Society accumulate that it became necessary to build a home to contain them. And so I should like my first words to be those of thankfulness to our Fellows, living and dead, who have made for us so many things possible.

As, day by day, we enter these pleasant rooms, leaving outside awhile the distractions and the annoyances of our busy lives, are we not proud to realize that we hold membership in a profession so ancient, so honorable, so devoted to those standards which have always embodied the eternal values? Opening our minds to the spirit of this place, perhaps we take down from its shelf a volume of Hippocrates or Galen or Vesalius or Pare or Harvey, and while we turn reverently the ageing pages, are we not of one mind with Milton when he writes, "Books are not absolutely dead things, but do contain a potency of life in them to be as active as that soul whose progeny they are; nay, they do preserve as in a vial the purest efficacy and extraction of that living intellect that bred them." It matters little that we can not, most of us, read the Greek or the Latin in which these books are written; merely to stand silently before the works of great men is itself to receive their benediction and to partake of their ennobling influence.

Many of our books are old, tinctured with the spirit and savor of the past, teaching us the lesson of how slow in gestation is the mother of truth, how hazardous the generation, how difficult the propagation of new and fruitful ideas. And why do we reverence old books? Because, as Oliver Wendell Holmes remarked, "There is true pleas-

ure in reading the accounts of great discoveries in the own words of the author. I do not pretend to hoist up the *Bibliotheca Anatomica* of Magnetius and spread it on my table *every day*. I do not get out my great Albinus before every lecture on the muscles or disturb the majestic repose of Vesalius every time I speak of the bones he has so admirably described and figured; but it does please me to read the first descriptions of parts to which the names of their discoverers have become so joined that not even modern science can part them; to listen to the talk of my old volume as Willis describes his circle, and Fallopius his aqueduct, and Varolius his bridge, and Eustachius his tube, and Munro his foramen. I am not content until I know in what language Harvey announced his discovery of the circulation, and how Spigelius made the liver his perpetual memorial, and Malpighi found a monument more enduring than brass in the corpuscles of the spleen and the kidney.

"There are practical books among these ancient volumes which can never grow old. Would you know how to recognize a 'male hysteria' and to treat it?—take down your Sydenham. Would you read the experience of a physician who was himself the subject of asthma and who, in the words of Dr. Johnson, 'panted on till ninety?'—you will find it in the venerable treatise of Sir John Flower. Would you listen to the story of the King's Evil cured by the royal touch?—go to Wiseman. Would you get at first hand the description of the spinal diseases—which long bore his name?—go to Percival Pott, the great surgeon of the eighteenth century."

Although Dr. Hersey and after him Dr. Blumer, Dr. Day, and Dr. Partridge have written the story of our library, surely it can not be amiss, after twenty-five years and before this audience, to tell it briefly once again for thus shall we keep vigorous and render secure the continuity of our traditions. By knowing something of our history and reflecting upon it, we enrich our souls, because "without history a man's soul is purblind, seeing only the things which almost touch his eyes." (Fuller, *Holy and Profane State*, 1642.) Our young men especially, who are making such fruitful use of this library, should know whence and from whom they have derived their riches.

During the first fifty years of the Society's existence the nucleus of a small library was collected, largely the medical books of deceased mem-

bers. You will recall that at the first election of officers of our society in 1812 a librarian was chosen, proof that our founding fathers expected that physicians should be interested in books. But the librarian made no annual report, asked for no appropriation, and since the office seemed to involve no duties, it was finally discontinued. In 1859 Dr. Usher Parsons offered a motion, which was carried, calling attention to the need of a room for the Society's books and manuscripts and for holding its meetings. A committee was appointed and, reporting lack of success, was continued for a year and then discharged. The Society held its meetings, now in one place, now in another, until the opening of the Rhode Island Hospital in 1868, after which it met for several years in the old hospital library. To the keeping of the hospital were entrusted the books presented to the Society by Dr. Caleb Fiske in 1835. The Society continued to grow, and in 1874 began again its wanderings and held its meetings in such places as Lyceum Hall, Barney's Hall, the Y.M.C.A., and the Masonic Temple. As late as the 99th annual meeting held on May 31, 1910, the Society was indulging its peripatetic proclivities. Let me quote what Dr. Eugene Kingman remarked in his presidential address on that occasion. "We have two great needs," he said, "first a home; second, money. We have no home. For ninety-eight years we have wandered from place to place, hiring whatever hall we could get. We have met today, May 31, because we could not obtain this hall (Masonic Temple) or one suitable on the regular day of our June meeting. Besides a hall we need a place for our library. We have several thousand books and several complete and valuable files of journals. The Providence Public Library has kindly accommodated us for some time, but now it is crowded, and unless we go to some expense we must leave there. Our Building Committee has a fund in its possession. The rent which we now pay annually for halls and the rent we soon will have to pay for library facilities, if added to the amount we might receive from others for the use of our hall, would make a sum sufficient to pay the interest on a mortgage of fair size. Let us then make it our earnest purpose to procure at once a building appropriate for our use."

In 1876, Dr. Timothy Newell, then the Society's treasurer, drew attention to the urgent need of a permanent depository for its books, pamphlets,

and records, as well as for a place for its meetings. Two years later a committee, of which Dr. Charles O'Leary was chairman, was chosen to report upon the feasibility of founding a library. Dr. O'Leary reported at the December meeting of 1878 that the Society had in its possession 130 books, and that should a library be started and a well-qualified committee and librarian be appointed, the library would certainly grow and become a valuable acquisition for the medical profession of the state. As a result of this report the first annual library committee was chosen at the next annual meeting, June 1879. The members of the committee were Drs. Timothy Newell, Horace G. Miller, W. E. Anthony, George D. Hersey, and Oliver C. Wiggins. Dr. Anthony was elected librarian, but he soon asked to be relieved, and in January, 1880, the committee elected as his successor Dr. George D. Hersey, to whom we owe an everlasting debt of gratitude for his loyal and untiring labors in the building of our present library. He increased the number of our books by increments of 500 to 1500 volumes yearly until it had reached at least 30,000 bound volumes.

In mentioning the name of Dr. Hersey, I am recalling the services of one of our greatest benefactors. For more than thirty years he labored to enrich the library, and with what success we all can observe for ourselves. Is he not worthy of some lasting token of our esteem and gratitude? William Osler's name is associated with the Hall of the Medical and Chirurgical Faculty of Maryland, Oliver Wendell Holmes' with the Boston Medical Library, David Hosack's with the Academy of Medicine in New York, Weir Mitchell's with the College of Physicians in Philadelphia. Why not George D. Hersey's with our own Medical library? It would be a gracious thing to honor him by naming, let us say, our reading room or our assembly hall in his memory. I should like to make this recommendation to the Society as being worthy of serious consideration.

For many years the books were kept in the rooms of the old Franklin Society, until in 1900 the space became inadequate, whereupon they were removed to the third floor of the Providence Public Library, where they reposed until they were brought to this building.

After the removal of the books to the Public Library, the Society's meetings were held either in Rhode Island Hall of Brown University, the Eloise, the Masonic Temple about which you heard Dr.

Kingman complain, or in the Young Men's Christian Association Hall.

The corner-stone of this building was laid on June 1, 1911. Dr. Frank L. Day, for the Trustees of the Rhode Island Medical Society Building, presided. Right Reverend James DeWolf Perry, Jr., opened the exercises with prayer. Governor Pothier, Mayor Fletcher of Providence, Mr. H. L. Koopman of the John Hay Library, and Dr. F. C. Shattuck of Boston offered their felicitations. Dr. John M. Peters, chairman of the sub-committee on construction, prepared a box which was placed within the corner-stone. Within the box were the following items: First number, Transactions Rhode Island Medical Society; last number, Transactions Rhode Island Medical Society; list of Fellows, June 1, 1911, Rhode Island Medical Society; Charter, Constitution and By-Laws, Rhode Island Medical Society; Providence Medical Journal, May 1911; Monthly Bulletin for January 1911, of Rhode Island State Board of Health; reports of Rhode Island Hospital, 1910; St. Joseph's Hospital, 1910; Newport Hospital, 1910; Memorial Hospital, Pawtucket; Woonsocket Hospital, Butler Hospital, 1910; Providence Lying-In Hospital, 1910; roster of Providence City Hospital; Providence Journal, Evening Bulletin, Providence Tribune, Providence News, June 1, 1911; coins of date 1911; program of the meeting. Right Reverend Monsignor Thomas F. Doran closed the exercises with benediction.

The Annual Address was delivered by Dr. G. Alder Blumer and was entitled "A Plea for the Medical Library." Dr. Blumer concluded his address with these prophetic words, "The motto of the ancient town in which your speaker first saw the light, once the home of the Venerable Bede, earliest of librarians, is 'Nil desperandum auspice Deo'—incentive words which, on this auspicious anniversary, may well carry to us, across the centuries and athwart the waters, an inspiration to high enterprise. Let us then march breast forward to witness the ceremonies that shall now usher in a new era for this honorable Society, sensible that many generations of men yet unborn will read, on enduring walls soon to spring from that corner-stone, the proud legend of their foundation and, so reading, murmur gratitude for their goodly heritage long after we whose pulses beat and are stirred on this memorable day shall have drifted like broken clouds into the Great Beyond of the infinite."

The one-hundred and first annual meeting and the first session to be held in the new building occurred on Thursday, June 13, 1912, in Assembly Hall, Rhode Island Medical Society Library Building. The President, Dr. F. T. Rogers, presided. The Centennial oration was delivered by the venerable Dr. Abraham Jacobi, who spoke on "The Educational Value of Medical Societies and Libraries." In delivering the keys and turning over the new building to the Society, through the incoming President, Dr. Alexander B. Briggs, Dr. Rogers said, "I can not express to you the thoughts that come to my mind, nor in words tell you how highly I esteem the honor which for a brief period is mine, as today we begin a new century of medical life with the dreams of our forefathers and the hopes of many years of waiting realized in this new and magnificent edifice devoted to the medical profession of this state, a home for this Society forevermore, and a permanent housing for its valuable library." And in similar vein, Dr. John M. Peters, handing over to the new President the trowel with which the first mortar was placed in laying the corner-stone, remarked, "May I, who have been in close touch with the progress of the work, express my own appreciation of the tremendous amount of energy and time put into this work by our President and Treasurer. It has been said many times during these first eighteen months that the Society would be without a home of its own for another hundred years were it not for the initiative (without the referendum) of Dr. Rogers. Gentlemen, with him in the lead, with the rest of us helping him along and with the generous gifts of some of our friends, we have succeeded in founding a permanent home that will mean much to us in our work and will add dignity to us in the medical profession.

"We trust that our present members and our successors will find this what it was planned to be, a permanent home, well located, well built and arranged for the convenience and comfort of the Fellows."

Such then, in summary view, is the story of our Society's building and library. For twenty-five years we have held our meetings here; within the walls of this building our members have come to know one another better, making new friends and cementing the ties which bind us to old ones; here on former occasions, as also today, we have welcomed our medical colleagues from other States,

bearing their gifts of knowledge and friendship; surrounded by our books we have become, I am sure, more worthy members of our profession and have learned to appreciate, intimately and personally, that noble saying of Hippocrates that where there is love of humanity there also is love of our art.

A library is obviously a great and essential factor in the preservation of knowledge and history. But, as Sir Humphry Rolleston remarked not long ago, it has been rather pessimistically said that a library is a mausoleum where knowledge lies dead and mummified; and this may be a real danger unless it is activated and kept alive by a guide to its contents. A library is not complete without a good catalogue, namely one with the double entry of author and subject; and it is obvious also that the larger the library, the more fully will such a catalogue afford access to existing knowledge, especially when printed and distributed widely to other libraries. For many years our own library lacked a catalogue and was, therefore, more or less useless for those who would consult it. Recently, however, we have begun to realize our hope so long deferred, and I am happy to note that the Library Committee reports that our 30,000 books and journals are in process of being catalogued. This is time-consuming work, and it is good to know that to date our index cards number 21,648, classified under subjects and authors.

When he was a young medical student at the Harvard Medical School, Dr. James H. Davenport, stimulated by the precept and the example of Dr. Oliver Wendell Holmes, his revered teacher, began collecting the extra-professional writings of physicians. Over a period of many years Dr. Davenport assembled these books assiduously and presented them, more than twelve hundred in number, to the Rhode Island Medical Society. It is interesting to remember that, with loving care, he arranged them upon our shelves. You may observe them in the Miller Room,—a collection unique in this country. Here, awaiting our reading in leisure hours, are volumes of fiction, essays, poetry, history, travel, autobiography, memoirs of celebrated physicians, biographies of men who have honored themselves and us,—all of them written by Doctors of Medicine, bearing abundant witness to the sound scholarship, the intellectual versatility, the fine taste, and the love of humaner letters which have always characterized the best men of our pro-

fession. Although Dr. Davenport collected many of the writings of those whom he liked to call the "literary Doctors of Medicine," there are still a considerable number of books which, as yet, we do not possess. Every year our colleagues are publishing books which should find their place in the Davenport Collection. Assuredly it would be a splendid thing to procure as many of these volumes as our means may permit, and I should like to offer his suggestions to our Library Committee. In addition to purchased books it would be pleasant to receive gifts from our Fellows, for there is, I suppose, no way more fitting to honor the memory of Dr. Davenport and to show our own interest in our library than by the presentation of books whereby we may increase the value and add to the completeness of this unusual collection.

If time permitted, how many interesting stories might be told about the books, pamphlets, and journals on the shelves of our library! Within the walls of this building one can enjoy, as often as he may wish, adventures which would gladden the heart of any lover of books. From Hippocrates to the latest volume issued from the press, the whole history of medicine lies open to his view. Perhaps you will allow me to relate one or two of my own experiences which can be duplicated by anyone who cares to do so. Some years ago I took from the shelves in the Miller Room a pamphlet entitled "Discourse upon the Institution of Medical Schools in America," by Dr. John Morgan of Philadelphia. Reading the yellowed pages of Morgan's discourse I was present at the very foundation of higher medical education in our country; for here was a young physician schooled in all the learning of Europe, who in 1765 lighted the Greek torch in the first medical school to be founded in the colonies of America. Morgan received his degree of Doctor of Medicine in Edinburgh in 1763 and presented as his thesis a dissertation on the *Formation of Pus*. From Edinburgh he journeyed to Paris and thence across the Alps to ancient Padua. You will remember that Shakespeare put into the lips of Lucentio in "The Taming of the Shrew," the words:

"Since for the great desire I had
To see fair Padua, nursery of arts,
I am arrived for fruitful Lombardy,
The pleasant garden of great Italy
... for I have Pisa left
And am to Padua come, as he that leaves
A shallow plash to plunge him in the deep
And with satiety seeks to quench his thirst."

While in Padua Dr. Morgan was graciously received by the celebrated Morgagni who had just published his great work *De sedibus et causis morborum*, an inscribed copy of which he presented to the young American. In our library, as you know, there is a beautiful copy in two volumes of the first edition of Morgagni's work. And why do I say that Morgan lighted the torch of Greek medicine in America? Because the stream of the Greek tradition flowed from Salerno to Padua; thence to Leyden, and from Leyden under Boerhaave to Edinburgh, and from Edinburgh under Alexander Munro and William Cullen in the eighteenth century to the great medical schools of the New World—to Philadelphia, Columbia, and Harvard.

In the autumn of 1833, an insignificant newspaper office in Plattsburg, New York, published at the author's expense one thousand copies of a small octavo volume. The book was printed on ordinary paper and was bound in pasteboard covers. It was issued without acclaim and was featured by no advertising or reviews; and yet in 1933 the centenary of the publication of this modest book was celebrated by scientists in many cities of the United States. The book was William Beaumont's *Observations on the Gastric Juice and the Physiology of Digestion*, which laid the corner-stone of American physiology. In many pleasant mornings among our stacks what was my surprise and delight to discover that we are the proud possessors not of one but of eight copies of this rare and most valuable work! Probably no other library in America can boast as many Beaumonts as our own. Dr. Andrew Combe who edited the Edinburgh reprint of Beaumont's work in 1838, has an interesting note which goes to prove that, like so many other pathfinders in science and medicine, Beaumont was not appreciated at his true value. Combe writes that "in proof of Dr. Beaumont's disinterestedness in conducting the inquiry, I may mention that I have learned from private sources that the expenses attending the various series of experiments exceeded in amount £700 Sterling, the whole of which was defrayed by himself, and for repayment of which he was advised to apply to the Congress, on the ground of the public being interested in the promotion of scientific discovery; but although the American Treasury was at the time literally overflowing, the application was refused."

We Rhode Islanders have three good reasons for remembering the famous Bishop Berkeley,—first,

he lived amongst us; second, he fathered an influential system of philosophy; and third, he left us the recipe for tar water. In 1793 there was reprinted in Providence by J. Carter, "An Authentic Narrative of the Success of Tarwater, In curing a great Number and Variety of Distempers; with Remarks. By Thomas Prior, Esq; Carefully Abridged. To which are subjoined, Two Letters from the Author of Siris: Shewing the Medicinal Properties of Tarwater, and the best Manner of Making it."

Here then, was a local testimonial to the surpassing virtues of tar water. I opened the booklet with great expectations but was hardly prepared for the formidable array of disorders set forth in the index, all of them more or less readily curable by the free use of the good Bishop's beverage. I shall not read the list in full, but perhaps you can bear with A, B and C. The distempers which you may relieve with tar water are: ague, asthma, barrenness, bilious fever, bloody-flux, bloody urine, blood from the lungs, boils, bruises, cancer, canker in the mouth, colic, cold, consumption, contraction of the bowels, costiveness, cramp, coughs. One of the sufferers who was relieved of all manner of things by the "wonderful efficacy of that sovereign remedy Tarwater" invokes the Muses thus,

"Oh learned Berkley! who enough can praise
Thy gen'rous labor? thy instructive page,
Our steps directing to this source of health?
The fair and beauteous pine in vain had shed
Its precious juice, till thou, with curious search,
Explor'd its virtuous qualities, and taught
Mankind the wholesome secret. Thou hast done
A deed well worthy everlasting fame."

The Bishop has more than all the confidence of his disciples. In a letter which forms the appendix to this small booklet, he writes, "My experiments have been made in various cases, and on many persons; and I make no doubt its virtues will soon be more fully discovered, as Tarwater is now growing into general use, though not without that opposition which usually attends upon novelty. The great objection I find made to this medicine is, that it promises too much. What! say the objectors, do you pretend to a panacea? a thing strange, chimerical, and contrary to the experience and opinion of all mankind! Now, to speak out and give this objection or question a direct answer, I freely own, that I *suspect* Tarwater is a Panacea. I may be mistaken, but it is worth trial; for the chance of so

great and general benefit, I am willing to stand the ridicule of proposing it. And as the old philosopher cried aloud, from the house-tops, to his fellow citizens, *educate your children*, so, I confess, if I had a situation high enough, and a voice loud enough, I would cry out to all valetudinarians upon earth, *drink Tarwater*."

And now, gentlemen, I must take leave of the pleasures to be derived from our library; but not before I have thanked both officers and members of the Society for that always loyal support which has made the tenure of my office an inspiring privilege. As in the past, by our united efforts, we have labored with some success to enhance the usefulness and to further the best interests of our profession, so let us go forward to meet the future in unity, peace and concord.

CONTRACT PRACTICE

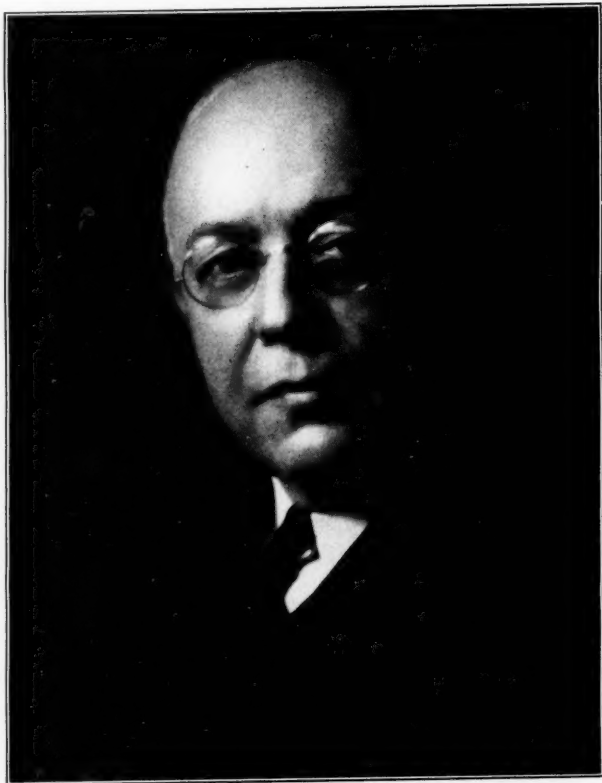
It is unprofessional for a physician to dispose of his services under conditions that make it impossible to render adequate service to his patient or which interfere with reasonable competition among the physicians of a community. To do this is detrimental to the public and to the individual physician, and lowers the dignity of the profession.

Contract practice per se is not unethical. However, certain features or conditions if present make a contract unethical, among which are: 1. When there is solicitation of patients, directly or indirectly. 2. When there is underbidding to secure the contract. 3. When the compensation is inadequate to assure good medical service. 4. When there is interference with reasonable competition in a community. 5. When free choice of a physician is prevented. 6. When the conditions of employment make it impossible to render adequate service to the patients. 7. When the contract because of any of its provisions or practical results is contrary to sound public policy.

Each contract should be considered on its own merits and in the light of surrounding conditions. Judgment should not be obscured by immediate, temporary or local results. The decision as to its ethical or unethical nature must be based on the ultimate effect for good or ill on the people as a whole.

From the Code of Ethics of the A. M. A.

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WALTER C. ROCHELEAU, M.D.
President of the
Rhode Island Medical Society
1937-38

THE RHODE ISLAND MEDICAL JOURNAL

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THE ANNUAL MEETING

The one hundred and twenty-sixth Annual Meeting of the Rhode Island Medical Society provides an example to be emulated by its successors. The scientific program was well divided between fellows of the Society and guest speakers. The guest speakers were men of special eminence in their specialties. Discussion of the papers was active and critical. The round table discussion on "Disorders of the Thyroid" was a feature new to this community. Answering the questions propounded by Dr. Frederic V. Hussey, the members of the group, which included both fellows of the Society and guests, informally discussed many of the conditions of thyroid disease—the physiology and pathology; the etiology; the clinical signs and symptoms of hyperthyroidism and of hypothyroidism, the associated signs and symptoms referable to other systems than the thyroid; the laboratory procedures in diagnosis; the treatment, medical, X-ray, surgical. It was deeply regretted that more time was not allotted to this interesting and instructive symposium.

Although confined to a much smaller space than usual, the commercial and scientific exhibits were a constant center of interest. The Committee on Exhibits should seriously consider means for securing a much larger place for this important part of subsequent meetings. The President is to be congratulated on his excellent scientific program; the Committee on Arrangements, on the decorum which characterized the Annual Dinner; the Committee on Clinics, on the harmony with which the clinics were conducted in different hospitals. It was unusual and refreshing to meet hospital executives attending the clinics in other institutions than their own.

THE EDWIN SMITH SURGICAL PAPYRUS

This is a publication of the Oriental Society of Chicago, and is one of the outstanding examples in the history of scholarship. This is the oldest scientific book in the world. The original dates from 3000 B.C. and the present edition is one made in 1600 B.C. from another copy dating from 2600 B.C. It differs from all other manuscripts of the Ancient Near East in its modern scientific approach to surgical problems. All other Egyptian papyri depend on magic both for the diagnosis and the cure of disease. The Smith papyrus approaches the subject from the viewpoint of a modern text book on anatomy. It begins with case histories of injuries to the head, proceeding downward to the neck, shoulders and spine, and ending dramatically in the middle of the forty-eighth case. The various degrees of the severity of the injury are recognized, from a simple scalp wound to a compound comminuted fracture of the skull. The author appreciates cerebral localization and nearly discovered the circulation of the blood. He is willing to render an unfavorable verdict in cases where there is no possibility of recovery. The treatment is rational and consistent with modern thought, and in only one case is there resort to magic.

AN EDITORIAL OF HISTORY

Editorial in *Lancet*, 10, 726, 1826.

Mr. Rose has lately tied the femoral artery in a case of femoral aneurism. The operation lasted at least half an hour; the delay partly arose from the shortness of the external incision, but chiefly from the incision being made on the *outer side*, a la Ben Travers, of the sartorius muscle. During the operation the external incision was *frequently* enlarged, and *from the haggled manner in which* the dissection was made, *many were the attempts to pass the ligature under the artery before the sheath was laid open*. The patient appeared to suffer great agony during the process of *pioneering*, and exclaimed to Mr. Rose, (who to him seemed more like a *thorn*), "I think both you and I, sir, have had a hard piece of work of it." Extensive inflammation and suppuration occurred in the sac, and throughout the limb, and the patient made a speedy exit from this world, leaving his shattered limb as another *specimen* of splendid explorative *surgery* at St. George's.

RHODE ISLAND MEDICAL SOCIETY**Minutes of the One Hundred and Twenty-sixth Annual Sessions****Meeting of the Council**

The regular meeting of the Council of the Rhode Island Medical Society was called to order by the President, Dr. John E. Donley, Thursday, May 20, 1937, at 4:30 P. M.

The report of the Treasurer was read by Dr. Jesse E. Mowry. On motion of Dr. DeWolf, seconded by Dr. Hammond, the report was accepted. Dr. Mowry then read the financial report of the RHODE ISLAND MEDICAL JOURNAL, which was also approved.

On motion of Dr. Mowry, seconded by Dr. Partridge, the dues of Dr. V. L. Raia were rebated and his name placed on the retired list. The resignation of Dr. George M. Lott was accepted. The Treasurer reported that the dues of seven fellows were in arrears for a longer period than is permitted by the By-laws. It was voted that five of these be dropped from fellowship for non-payment of dues, after sixty days' notice, and that further effort be made to collect the amount due from the others.

On motion of Dr. Mowry, seconded by Dr. Gormly, the matter of an additional telephone for the Medical Library was referred to the Standing Committee of the Providence Medical Association.

The Secretary read a letter from the Washington County Medical Society, relating to contract practice. On motion of Dr. Miller, seconded by Dr. Jones, the action of the Washington County Society was approved. There being no further business, the meeting was then adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

GUY W. WELLS, M.D.,
Secretary.

Meeting of the House of Delegates

The regular meeting of the House of Delegates was called to order by the President, Dr. John E. Donley, May 20, 1937, at 5:20 P. M. Dr. Hammond read the report of the Committee for the Nomination of Officers for the ensuing year. On motion of Dr. Mowry, seconded by Dr. Jones, the report was accepted and the Secretary was empowered to cast an unanimous ballot for the election of the officers nominated.

The Secretary gave the report of the meeting of the Council. The annual report of the Treasurer was read and approved. Dr. H. A. Winckler, Chairman of the Committee on Arrangements, announced that the Annual Dinner of the Rhode Island Medical Society would again be held at the Pomham Club, on Thursday, June the third, at six P. M. On Wednesday, June the second, a collation would be served at the Medical Library between the hours of six and eight P. M. Dr. Joseph C. O'Connell, Anniversary Chairman, announced that we have been fortunate in obtaining as Speaker for the occasion of the Anniversary Dinner, Dr. Alexander Stoddard, Superintendent of Schools of Providence, who would address the meeting on some educational subject.

The reports of the following committees were then read and approved:

Committee on Publication: Dr. Kingman.

Board of Trustees of the R. I. Medical Library Building: Dr. Brackett.

Library Committee: Dr. John G. Walsh.

Committee on Unemployment Relief: Dr. Gormly.

Committee on Exhibits: Dr. Skelton.

Committee on Publicity: Dr. Bradley.

Committee on Legislation: Dr. Harris.

Committee on Public Health Clinics: Dr. Farrell.

Educational Committee: Dr. Bray.

The recommendation of the Committee on Education that the successful popular lectures at the Medical Library be duplicated in other centers of the State, was favorably discussed by Dr. Farrell.

The Secretary read a letter from the Surgeon General, dealing with the control of syphilis. On motion of Dr. Christie, seconded by Dr. Holt, the President was empowered to appoint a committee of three members to advise with local and national public health authorities in regard to the control of syphilis.

On motion by Dr. Skelton, it was voted that the Secretary be instructed to write to the firm of Blanding and Blanding a letter of appreciation for their aid in advertising the Sunday lectures given at the Medical Library under the Committee on Education.

On motion of Dr. Partridge, seconded by Dr. Jones, it was voted that the dues be \$10.00 for the ensuing year.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:10 P. M.

Respectfully submitted,

GUY W. WELLS, M.D.,
Secretary.

The Annual Meeting

The one hundred and twenty-sixth Annual Meeting of the Rhode Island Medical Society was held June 2nd and 3rd, 1937. Mornings were devoted to clinical work and afternoons to the reading and discussion of papers.

Wednesday morning, a wide variety of clinics were held in Butler, Pawtucket Memorial and St. Joseph's Hospitals. Thursday morning, clinics were held in Miriam and Rhode Island Hospitals. In order to be of value to the greatest number of the members of the State Society, a variety of subjects were chosen. Besides clinics in general medicine and surgery and the specialties, others were given in X-ray, anesthesia, blood transfusion and by the departments of photography. The clinics as a whole were well attended.

Wednesday afternoon, following the report of the Secretary, an address of welcome was given by His Honor, Mayor James E. Dunne. He complimented the Society on its accomplishment in owning the Medical Library Building, remembered his own participation in the hanging of the picture of Dr. Charles V. Chapin, commented on the interest in our Sunday lectures, and noted the uncompensated service of the profession to the community. In his reply, our President, Dr. John E. Donley, said "The less we have the more we give." The President then welcomed the delegates from other New England state societies. Dr. J. E. Ruiss reported for the Committee on Necrology. Dr. Wilfred Pickles reported that the Trustees of the Fiske Fund had found no essay of sufficient merit to warrant awarding the Fiske Fund Prize. He announced as the topic for the next competition, "Surgical Treatment of Disorders of the Autonomic Nervous System." The Secretary read the report of the Nominating Committee and reported on the election of officers by the House of Delegates.

The afternoon program consisted of four papers, the first, on "Some Practical Aspects of the Diagnosis and Treatment of Pernicious Anemia," was by Dr. Herman A. Lawson. This condition is a definite disease, presumably caused by inability of the body to absorb adequately food materials necessary to maintain a normal supply of red blood cells. The author emphasized the importance of correctly diagnosing and starting to treat the disease in its early stages. As the treatment is prolonged the disease must not be said to be present unless the clinical evidence is convincing, the most important

signs being anemia, digestive disturbance, and certain nervous symptoms. Correct laboratory diagnosis by microscopic examination of the blood must always be carried out. A large proportion of the patients must be treated by injection into the muscles of the proper medicine. If treatment is adequate and maintained, the outlook for return to health is very much better than is commonly supposed. Incomplete treatment does not prevent continuation of the disease, which was usually fatal until discovery of its specific cure about 10 years ago.

DR. WILLIAM S. STREKER, opening the discussion of Dr. Lawson's paper, said in part:—This is a valuable paper because it presents the results of personal experience. Dr. Lawson has taken some of the boys on a trip to the wood shed, magnanimously. My earlier cases were treated on parenteral liver. Liver extract was ordered and given by the nurse. One transfusion was followed by a terrifying reaction. The patient went on to a complete recovery. One developed abscesses at the seat of injection, which required surgical treatment. There is widespread misconception of the central nervous degeneration. Neurological changes may be oedematous. I have seen two cases of mental disturbance; one a mild psychosis, the other delusional. It is important to obtain a reliable liver preparation, as the preparations vary in potency. My personal plan is to attempt liver in some form every day and to give an injection at the office once a month.

DR. LAWSON:—I have no experience with the intravenous injection. I have encountered no mental disturbances. The liver extract can be used intramuscularly at half the cost of the capsules by mouth.

The second paper, by Dr. Jesse P. Eddy, 3rd, was entitled "Experiences with Blood Transfusion at the Memorial Hospital." At the Memorial Hospital in Pawtucket a special service has been provided for over two years, whereby members of the staff may always call upon the services of physicians and their assistants who are specially qualified, to perform blood transfusion when necessary. The giving of one person's blood to another person who is ill is never carried out unless necessary, but by improving the hospital facilities for the procedure, more patients have been able to profit from this form of treatment, and with better results as far as the effects of the transfusion are concerned. A

bureau of blood donors who are readily available has been established in Pawtucket. The American Legion has made it financially possible in certain instances to supply blood to patients who cannot afford the cost. Developments of this sort are most helpful to the community.

Dr. Eddy's paper was illustrated with a motion picture of an actual transfusion. Both of these papers were by members of the Society.

DR. FRANCIS H. CHAFEE, opening the discussion of Dr. Eddy's paper, said in part:—Transfusion is not a simple procedure but one to be done by an experienced person. The question of too few or too many transfusions may be referred to the experience with the use of intravenous fluid which has markedly increased in the past ten years.

DR. CECIL C. DUSTIN:—Dr. Julius Kelly and I have done five hundred transfusions, 90% by the citrated method, with less than 2% of reactions, none of them serious. The direct method may be the method of choice for a trained team.

DR. ALEX. M. BURGESS:—The multiple syringe transfusion should be called not the direct method but the whole blood method. We should keep the citrated method. In comparison with a method which requires an available, expert, trained team, the citrated method is rather simple. Bad results with the whole blood method have occurred in the hands of the inexperienced.

DR. JOHN F. KENNEY:—In Russia, I saw transfusions with blood from a cadaver twenty-four hours old, kept up to a month. Although they have done 1500 such transfusions without a reaction, deliver me from a blood transfusion in Russia.

DR. A. K. H. SUNDIN:—The rate of flow is a factor in producing reactions.

DR. EDDY:—Multiple syringe transfusion is a simple method for an expert with one trained nurse.

The third paper, entitled "Observations on the Mechanisms Producing Shock," was read by Dr. Dana W. Atchley, Assistant Professor of Medicine in the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Columbia University. Shock in the medical sense is sudden vital depression of varying degree, but which may be very serious. It may be a complication of several medical conditions. The author feels that too rigid attempts have been made to catalogue the various forms of shock. Changes in body function resulting in shock were discussed. By an understanding of what actually produces shock,

the physician is better able to treat the condition. DR. FRANK T. FULTON, opening the discussion of Dr. Atchley's paper:—Dr. Atchley has given us such a splendid presentation of his subject that it is difficult to discuss. I would emphasize the disproportion between blood volume and capacity of the bed as the fundamental idea to carry away.

DR. ALEX. M. BURGESS:—I raise the question of a small amount of adrenalin with a large amount of saline in shock.

DR. FULTON:—The diagnosis between cardiac failure and shock may make the difference between life and death to the patient.

DR. ATCHLEY:—It is a fact that small, continued doses of adrenalin can produce the signs of shock.

The last number of the afternoon program consisted of a round table discussion on "Disorders of the Thyroid," arranged by Dr. Frederic V. Hussey and participated in by Drs. Frank H. Lahey and Lewis M. Hurxthal of Boston, John F. Kenney of Pawtucket, Guy W. Wells, Isaac Gerber and Cecil C. Dustin of Providence. Disorders involving too active function of the thyroid gland, and also disorders involving defective function of this one of the glands of internal secretion were discussed. The physicians presented the viewpoints resulting from various types of specialized experience with these conditions. Recent new and important scientific work has greatly improved the physician's understanding of thyroid disease, and his ability to relieve or cure the patient.

Dr. R. G. Leland of the Bureau of Medical Economics of the American Medical Association addressed the Society in the evening session. Dr. Leland's subject: "Is Medicine to be Socialized?" This was of great interest to the Medical Profession in view of the changes in government at the present time. The Rhode Island Medical Society is especially grateful to him for his paper.

DR. LELAND:—Throughout the past 2,000 years or more, the one tie that has continued to bind physicians closely is the Principles of Medical Ethics. The Principles of Medical Ethics are: that the practice of medicine should be restricted to those specially trained; that competition between physicians should be based on quality of service and not on fees; that successful diagnosis and treatment usually rest on mutual confidence between the patient and his physician; that groups of physicians should neither employ nor demand rules of conduct that are not appropriate for the individual private

practitioner; and that any system of medicine should include all reputable physicians. Sometimes, the medical profession finds itself engulfed by national movements which threaten to destroy many patterns and social values which have required generations to acquire and perfect. A large number of foreign countries have adopted different forms of state managed medicine. In some of these systems there are more bureaucratic employees than physicians giving medical service. The "red tape," records, political interference, domination and control is so great that the physician cannot devote the time he should to the actual practice of medicine. Thus, both quality and quantity of medical care tends to be reduced. We, in the United States, are justified in drawing our own conclusions from the best available facts as to whether these types of state managed medicine are suitable for the United States of America.

The last paper, "Surgical Curiosities and Rareties" with lantern illustrations, was read by Dr. John F. Erdmann, Visiting Surgeon of New York Post Graduate Hospital. Objects and procedures of interest to physicians, rare and curious from the professional and technical viewpoint, were presented by this New York surgeon who is recognized for his achievements throughout the world.

At 2 P. M. on Thursday afternoon, the Society again assembled in the auditorium of the Medical Library Building. The first paper presented was by Dr. Charles W. McClure, Assistant Professor of Gastro-Enterology at Boston University School of Medicine. He spoke on "Affections of the Colon." The author presented X-ray films and photographs illustrating alterations in the structure of this part of the intestinal canal, which were the cause or result of disease. A discussion of disturbances of the functions of the colon in which there were no changes in its structure was also held. Clear understanding of these conditions enables the physician to treat them much more effectively.

Dr. FRANK A. CUMMINGS, opening the discussion of Dr. McClure's paper, said that the colon is a center for infections. He emphasized the importance of examination of the stools and of X-ray examination in every case.

Dr. RUSSELL S. BRAY held that carcinoma of the sigmoid and diverticulitis can be diagnosed with the X-ray. We should always distinguish colitis from functional disturbances of the colon. An old megacolon may leave secondary changes.

Dr. D. FRANK GRAY stated that ulcer is often diagnosed as chronic indigestion. Later he found that cholecystitis may produce the same symptoms as ulcer. The liver has much to do with gallbladder symptoms.

Dr. McCLURE agreed as to the importance of diagnosis between carcinoma and diverticulitis. An exploratory operation may be justified to settle the diagnosis. An atonic colon may resemble a megacolon.

"The Diagnosis and Treatment of Trigeminal Neuralgia and Meniere's Disease" was the title of a paper by Dr. Gilbert Horrax, Director of the Department of Neurosurgery of the Lahey Clinic. The cause of trigeminal neuralgia is not known. It starts as a slight infection, perhaps in the teeth; when developed, extraction of the teeth is without benefit. The attacks of pain are severe but intermittent, lasting only a few seconds. The attacks are brought on by some external stimulus, as a draft of air, or by shaving, chewing or swallowing. It is a disease of later life. Remember that the treatment is of choice rather than of necessity. Treatment of the first attack should be expectant, rest in bed and a sedative. The pain may be made less by inhalations of trichlorethylene, by having a skillful physician inject alcohol into the nerve, or by partial cutting of part of the nerve. This last operation has been greatly simplified, and in the hands of a qualified neurosurgeon is permanently effective and usually without the complication of facial paralysis. Meniere's disease is a disorder of the internal organ of the ear, and among other things causes distress by recurrent dizziness. It may be treated successfully in certain patients by using a low sodium diet with the addition of ammonium chloride—the Fürstemburg diet. Other patients are best treated by partial cutting of the acoustic nerve by a competent neurosurgeon.

Dr. Horrax' paper was illustrated with lantern slides.

The annual address was read by the President, Dr. John E. Donley, with the title "The Rhode Island Medical Library after Twenty-five Years."

Officers for the ensuing year were inducted into office as follows:

<i>President</i>	Dr. Walter C. Rocheleau
<i>First Vice President</i>	Dr. Edward S. Brackett
<i>Second Vice President</i>	Dr. Charles H. Holt
<i>Treasurer</i>	Dr. Jesse E. Mowry
<i>Secretary</i>	Dr. Guy W. Wells

The scientific sessions then adjourned and the members reassembled for the Annual Dinner at the Pomham Club Thursday evening. Dr. Joseph C. O'Connell, Anniversary Chairman, was toastmaster. Dr. Edward A. McLoughlin brought the greetings of His Excellency, Robert E. Quinn, Governor of the State of Rhode Island. Dr. Alexander J. Stoddard, Providence Superintendent of Schools, gave an especially interesting address entitled, "Some High Lights of the American Scene."

Respectfully submitted,
GUY W. WELLS, M.D.,
Secretary.

Report of the Nominating Committee

The Nominating Committee appointed by the President to submit to the House of Delegates a list of officers and standing committees for the ensuing year, begs leave to report as follows:

For President:

Walter C. Rocheleau, Woonsocket

First Vice President:

Edward S. Brackett, Providence

Second Vice President:

Charles H. Holt, Pawtucket

Secretary:

Guy W. Wells, Providence

Treasurer:

Jesse E. Mowry, Providence

Standing Committees

Legislation, State and National:

Herbert E. Harris, Providence

Charles H. Holt, Pawtucket

Charles F. Gormly, Providence

Publication:

Lucius C. Kingman, Providence

Harry C. Messinger, Providence

Charles S. Christie, West Warwick

Education, State and National:

George L. Young, East Greenwich

Jesse P. Eddy, 3d, Providence

Thad A. Krolicki, Pawtucket

Library:

John G. Walsh, Providence

Herbert G. Partridge, Providence

Edward V. Murphy, Newport

Necrology:

H. Lorenzo Emidy, Woonsocket

Clarence H. Woodmanson, Providence

Harry F. Crandall, Westerly

Arrangements:

Robert R. Baldridge, Providence

Frank W. Dimmitt, Providence

Nathan A. Bolotow, Providence

Delegate to the American Medical Association:

Guy W. Wells, Providence

Alternate:

Alex. M. Burgess, Providence

Curator:

Carl D. Sawyer, Providence

Auditor for two years:

Harold L. Collom, Apponaug

Respectfully submitted,

L. H. JOHNSON, M.D.

HENRI E. GAUTHIER, M.D.

WILLIAM S. STREKER, M.D.

JOHN F. KENNEY, M.D.

ROLAND HAMMOND, M.D.

Report of the Treasurer

RECEIPTS

Cash on Hand January 1, 1936	\$ 705.23
Annual Dues	4,150.00
Donations	654.75
Harris Fund	181.00
Terry Fund	76.80
Davenport Fund	71.20
Ely Fund	74.00
Morgan Fund	22.50
Exhibits, Annual Meeting	770.00
	<hr/>
	\$6,705.48

EXPENDITURES

Collation and Annual Dinner Expenses	\$1,044.82
Expenses of Secretary (Secretary service, etc.)	134.25
Printing and Postage	185.54
Gas	42.51
Electricity	105.94
Fuel	469.25
Telephone	130.54
City Water	17.09
House Supplies and Expenses	274.08
House Repairs	186.88
Librarian	1,660.00
Janitor	720.00
Journals, Ely and Terry Funds	79.50
Safe Deposit	6.60
Treasurer's Bond	25.00
Dues, Medical Library Association	10.00
Delegate, American Medical Association	100.00
Sunday Lectures	204.16
Exhibits, Expenses	261.87
	<hr/>
	\$5,658.03

Cash on Hand to Balance	1,047.45
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	\$6,705.48

STATEMENT OF INVESTED FUNDS

J. W. C. Ely Fund

January 1, 1936		January 1, 1937	
37 shares Rhode Island Public Service Co.	\$1,071.67	37 shares Rhode Island Public Service Co.	\$1,071.67
Interest	74.00	11½ new shares Common Stock, Mechanics Nat. Bk.	280.00
11½ new shares Common Stock, Mechanics Nat. Bk. (In place of 8 old shares, Mechanics Nat. Bk. Stock)	280.00	Paid Rhode Island Medical Society for Journals	74.00
Interest in default			
	<hr/>		<hr/>
	\$1,425.67		\$1,425.67

Endowment Fund

January 1, 1936		January 1, 1937	
2,000 Oklahoma Gas & Electric Co. 1st Mort. 5%	\$1,920.00	2,000 Oklahoma Gas & Electric Co.	\$1,920.00
Interest	100.00	Peoples Savings Bank	3,076.14
Peoples Savings Bank	2,901.92		
Bank interest	74.22		
	<hr/>		<hr/>
	\$4,996.14		\$4,996.14

E. M. Harris Fund

January 1, 1936		January 1, 1937	
2,000 A-NY & B-NY Realizing Corporation Debentures 5½%	\$2,000.00	2,000 A-NY & B-NY Realizing Corp. Debentures	\$2,000.00
4 shares stock A-NY & B-NY Realizing Corp.		4 shares stock A-NY & B-NY Realizing Corp.	
Interest in default		2,000 General Public Utilities	1,980.00
2,000 General Public Utilities Co. 6½%	1,980.00	1,000 Central Arizona Light & Power Co.	962.50
Interest	156.00	Paid R. I. Medical Society for Repairs on Building	181.00
1,000 Central Arizona Light & Power Co. 5%	962.50		
Interest	25.00		
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	\$5,123.50		\$5,123.50

Frank L. Day Fund

January 1, 1936		January 1, 1937	
3,000 Canadian National Railway Co. 4%	\$2,979.75	3,000 Canadian National Railway Co.	\$2,979.75
Interest	135.00	Paid for Medical Books	154.57
Industrial Trust Company	431.48	Industrial Trust Company	411.91
	<hr/>		<hr/>
	\$3,546.23		\$3,546.23

Herbert Terry Fund

January 1, 1936		January 1, 1937	
96 shares Providence Gas Co.	\$1,152.00	96 shares Providence Gas Co.	\$1,152.00
Interest	76.80	Paid Rhode Island Medical Society for Journals	29.50
Balance on hand	480.90	Balance on hand	528.20
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	\$1,709.70		\$1,709.70

James R. Morgan Fund

January 1, 1936		January 1, 1937	
500 Missouri Power & Light Co. 4½%	\$441.38	500 Missouri Power & Light Co.	\$441.38
Interest	22.50	Paid Rhode Island Medical Society for Expenses	22.50
	<hr/>		<hr/>
	\$463.88		\$463.88

James H. Davenport Fund

January 1, 1936		January 1, 1937	
89 shares Providence Gas Co.....	\$1,068.00	89 shares Providence Gas Co.....	\$1,068.00
Interest	71.20	Balance on hand	380.73
Balance on hand	309.53		
	<hr/>		<hr/>
	\$1,448.73		\$1,448.73

Cataloguing Fund

January 1, 1936		January 1, 1937	
Peoples Savings Bank, Clinical Conference Fund	\$132.59	Expenses for year Jan. 1, 1936-Jan. 1, 1937	\$ 45.70
Interest	3.33	Peoples Savings Bank	135.92
Providence National Bank, Checking Account	192.15	Providence National Bank, Checking Account	146.45
	<hr/>		<hr/>
	\$328.07		\$328.07

Participation Account

January 1, 1936		January 1, 1937	
Providence Institution for Savings	\$539.90	Providence Institution for Savings	\$553.47
Interest	13.57		
	<hr/>		<hr/>
	\$553.47		\$553.47

Examined and found correct, May 17, 1937.

ADOLPH W. ECKSTEIN, M.D.

FRANK B. LITTLEFIELD, M.D., *Auditors.*

Respectfully submitted,

JESSE E. MOWRY, M.D., *Treasurer.*

Report of the Library Committee

The year 1936-1937 has been a busy one at the Library. There were 1,679 visitors and many telephone requests for information on various subjects.

The number of volumes added by gift and purchase was 615 and 118 volumes were bound. About 700 were repaired at the State House by WPA workers.

The total number of cataloguing cards up to the present time is 21,648. The number of books and journals catalogued to date is 8,475. A new typewriter has recently been purchased to help with this work.

The subscription of journals, which has previously been carried on with the different publishers, has been given largely to the Moore-Cottrell Agencies, thus saving many letters and numerous small bills. About 109 journals are currently received.

Respectfully submitted,

JOHN G. WALSH, M.D., *Chairman.*

Report of the Committee on Commercial Exhibits

Seventeen firms engaged twenty-six booths for the Annual Meeting, June 2 and 3, 1937. These booths were located in the Reading Room and at the rear of the upper hall.

Respectfully submitted,

C. W. SKELTON, M.D., *Chairman.*

Report of the Committee on Clinics

The Committee on Hospital Clinics held on June 2 and June 3, 1937, in connection with the Annual Meeting of the Rhode Island Medical Society, submit the following report:

Hospital clinics have been held at eight hospitals in Providence and Pawtucket at the two previous meetings. In 1935 seven clinics and in 1936 eight clinics were held. The attendance the first year was fair while last year it was poor. The committee felt that fewer clinics each year might result in better attendance and more interest in these clinics. This phase of the situation was considered at length and talked over with the representatives of the various hospitals on the committee. It was finally decided to hold five clinics this year as follows: Wednesday, June 2, Butler Hospital, Memorial Hospital, St. Joseph's Hospital; Thursday, June 3, Miriam Hospital, Rhode Island Hospital. All of these hospitals will serve luncheon after the clinics. It is understood that the hospitals not holding clinics this year will do so next year.

Respectfully submitted,

CHARLES O. COOKE, M.D., *Chairman.*

(The Minutes of the 1937 Meeting of the Rhode Island Medical Society to be continued in the August number.)

Personal Notes

JUNE 7-11. Registration at the Atlantic City meeting of the American Medical Association was 9,534. Registered from Rhode Island:

Bowen, Earl A.	Kempker, Adele C.
Bradley, Charles	Leech, Clifton B.
Buxton, Bertram H.	Leet, Wm. Lessel
Castallo, Salvatore	Mankis, George R.
Chapian, M. A.	Matteo, Frank I.
Cima, H.	McLaughlin, Edward A.
Cohen, William B.	Miller, Albert H.
Corrigan, Francis V.	Mills, Parker
Coughlin, Fred A.	Morein, Samuel
Crank, R. P.	Potter, Alfred L.
Cummings, Frank A.	Prior, James H.
Cutts, Frank B.	Regan, John F.
Cutts, Morgan	Ronchese, F.
Cutts, William B.	Saklad, Meyer
Duckworth, Milton	Tefft, Benjamin F.
Fox, A. Henry	Walsh, John G.
Hammond, Roland	Waterman, George W.
Hawkins, Joseph F.	Wells, Guy W.
Hayward, John A.	Westcott, Niles
Horan, William A.	Weyler, Henry
Hughes, William N.	Wittig, Joseph E.

The feature of the meeting was the address of Senator James Hamilton Lewis before the House of Delegates on June 10, well set forth in *Time* for June 21. In the House of Delegates, Dr. Roland Hammond represented the Section on Orthopedics and Dr. Guy W. Wells, the Rhode Island Medical Society. Dr. Samuel Morein discussed a paper in the Section on Gastro-enterology and Proctology. In the concurrent Congress of Anesthetists, Dr. Albert H. Miller read a paper on "The Role of Diaphragmatic Breathing in Anesthesia and a Pneumographic Method of Recording," discussed by Dr. John A. Hayward of Providence and Dr. Cline N. Chipman of Washington, D. C. Drs. Bertram H. Buxton, George W. Waterman, Alfred L. Potter, and John G. Walsh successfully passed the general examinations of the American Board of Obstetrics and Gynecology.

JUNE 16. The annual Outing and Dinner of the Staff Association of St. Joseph's Hospital was held at the Metacomet Golf Club, East Providence. The afternoon was spent in golf and other sports while a continuous buffet lunch was available. Dinner was served at 7:00 P. M. and was followed by an entertainment.

JUNE 24. The fifty-second Annual Meeting of the Rhode Island Medico-Legal Society was held at Hearthstone House, Seekonk, Mass., at 5 P. M. Following the business meeting, a dinner was served.

JUNE 26. The Friday Night and Amos Throop Medical Clubs were entertained by Dr. Halsey DeWolf at his summer home at Ferrycliffe, Bristol.

Rhode Island Hospital

On June 6th, 1937, at the Lying-In Hospital, to Dr. and Mrs. Gayton S. Bailey, a daughter, Bettina Ann. Dr. Bailey is Resident House Physician at the Rhode Island Hospital.

The marriage of Dr. David Freedman to Miss Claire Reizen took place in Providence, on May 17th, 1937.

At the Holy Name Church, Providence, the marriage of Dr. Robert Gordon Murphy to Miss Elizabeth Theresa Walsh took place, on June 19th, 1937.

Dr. Melvin Bernhard's term as Pathological Intern expired on June 15th. Dr. Bernhard returned to his home in Louisville, Kentucky, by airplane. He is to be Chief Resident in Surgery at the Louisville City Hospital. Before coming to the R. I. H. he spent three years as Assistant Resident at that institution. Dr. Bernhard obtained his A.B. and M.D. degrees from the University of Louisville.

Dr. Charles S. Bryan, of Providence, Harvard A. B. and Harvard Medical School 1937, started his internship at the Rhode Island Hospital on June 15th.

Woonsocket Hospital

The regular meeting of the Woonsocket Hospital Staff was held May 10th, 1937, with Dr. T. Frank Kennedy presiding. Dr. Francis J. King read a paper on "The Essentials in a Hospital Approved for Interne Training."

The monthly clinical conference was held May 24th, 1937. The first case, one of "Friedrich's Ataxia," was presented by Dr. H. Lorenzo Emidy. General discussion followed. Dr. Henri E. Gauthier presented a case of malignant perineal tumor of four years' duration. As an exhibit, a transfusion was performed, by the gravity-vacuum method.

OBITUARY

J. EDWARD McCABE, M.D.

Dr. J. Edward McCabe died in St. Joseph's Hospital December 13, 1936, in his fifty-first year. He is mourned by a host of friends and patients.

Dr. McCabe was born in Providence, the son of James J. and Anna McCabe. He removed to North Attleboro with his parents at an early age, and was educated in the schools of that town. He studied medicine at Tufts College Medical School and graduated in 1914. After serving his internship at St. Joseph's Hospital, he began practice in Providence. He was a First Lieutenant in service during the World War. He was an assistant to Dr. John W. Keefe at the Keefe Surgery from 1916 to 1926; Assistant Surgeon at St. Joseph's Hospital for the same period. At this time his health failed, beginning inroads of cardiorenal vascular disease affecting his sight, and he was forced to relinquish most of his surgical, general and active hospital work.

Dr. McCabe was an associate member of the Staff of St. Joseph's Hospital, the Homeopathic Hospital, past physician to the State Home and School and State Institutions, a fellow of the American Medical Association, the Rhode Island Medical Society and the Providence Medical Association. He was a member of the Metacomet Golf Club, a life member of the North Attleboro lodge of Elks, and of the Knights of Columbus. He loved music, was a skilled pianist and had a good voice. Much of his leisure time was spent at the piano. Athletic in his youth, all outdoor sports appealed to him. His office and residence were at 341 Smith Street. He was unmarried.

He had a pleasing personality, sympathy, ability, training, and a remarkable understanding of human nature and disease. Death ended a successful and promising medical career.

EDWARD F. BURKE, M.D.,
PARKER MILLS, M.D.

JOSEPH HENRY AKERS, M.D.

Dr. Joseph Henry Akers, one of the senior members of this association, died in Attleboro, Mass., on April 4, 1937. He was born in Granby, Massachusetts, November 11, 1856, the son of Joseph Washington and Lucy Tufts Akers. After preliminary education in the public schools, he entered Dartmouth College Medical School, from which he

was graduated with the degree of M.D. in 1884. After post graduate study in New York, he began practice in Fiskdale, Mass., but after a year he removed to Providence, where he engaged in the general practise of medicine, until his retirement in 1935.

Dr. Akers was on the Staff of the Rhode Island Hospital in the Medical Department from 1888 to 1890, and in 1890 became House Physician to the Providence Lying-In Hospital, a position not at that time requiring residence in the Hospital. In 1892 he was elected Visiting Physician to the Hospital, and served until his resignation in 1903. He was then chosen Consulting Physician, which office he held at the time of his death.

He was a member of the Providence Medical Association from 1888 and a Fellow of the Rhode Island Medical Society from the same date.

Dr. Akers was a typical general practitioner of the olden times, having a most extensive practice in general medicine, minor surgery and especially obstetrics, in which he was not only keenly interested, but in which he excelled. He was, as all who were taught by him realized, thoroughly grounded in the theory of obstetrics and also a remarkable clinician. He had a great love for the Lying-In Hospital, and was very generous to the institution in many ways known only to those intimately connected with it. For avocation, he was much devoted to music, and for many years during his most busy times he continued the study of the violin.

He was highly respected by his colleagues in the profession, and was beloved to an unusual degree by his patients.

CHARLES W. HIGGINS, M.D.
H. G. PARTRIDGE, M.D.

Announcement is made of the 16th annual clinical and scientific session of the American Congress of Physical Therapy, September 20-24, at the Netherland Plaza Hotel, Cincinnati. The program includes many special features: sectional meetings in the specialties, symposia on short wave diathermy, hyperpyrexia, electrosurgery. Fever therapy and the treatment of vascular diseases will be discussed by prominent workers in the field. Other features include technical and scientific exhibits and a full day of hospital clinics where technic will be adequately demonstrated. There will be no registration fee. The executive offices of the Congress are at 30 North Michigan Avenue, Chicago.